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AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

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N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

APPLICATION OF MANURES.

Mr Breck– Dear Sir—I noticed in the New England Farmer, of the present week, a discussion at the State House on the application of manures. Having had some experience and made some observations, I also would express my opinion.

It has been frequently stated in agricultural papers, that plowing in manure is "the new method." This is a mistake; it was practiced when I was a boy, more than sixty years ago; and for the same reason that is now urged in its favor. And the manure must be spread no faster than the plow could turn it under, because it would dry. This, in my poor opinion, is incorrect; because green manure (which I would be understood to mean,) plowed under when wet and cold, will not decompose and incorporate with the soil near so soon, as it will if it is first warmed by the sun. If it has one or two days sun after it is spread, and then turned in, it will soon become moist, and immediately be decomposing, to the benefit of the growing crop. The philosophy and theory of putting manure deep in the soil, is, that its properties which are food for plants, ascend, and do not descend so as to lose any valuable properties:—a very rational, plausible *theory;* but does it agree with *experience*—with *facts?* I think not. I will state one fact from many I have known. Some years ago, I saw a man spreading manure on grass land in the spring, and soon after, plowing the same land quite deep, and the manure went to the bottom of the furrows. I watched that field at times, and observed that the corn was backward and small, and at harvest time was not ripe, and not more than half a crop. If the same quantity of manure had been put on after plowing, I have no doubt there would have been double the quantity of corn and of a much better quality; for the land was good, and had a good supply of manure.

My practice in late years has generally been to plow, spread the manure, and then harrow; and have uniformly had larger crops of corn and potatoes, than when the manure has been plowed in.

There was so much said and published some few years ago, in favor of spreading manure on grass land and turning it under the sod, that I manured a strip forty rods long and one rod wide on the grass, and in the middle of the field; then plowed it under from five to six inches deep; the other parts of the field had the manure spread on after plowing, and all harrowed. The result was, as I expected, that the strip where the manure was put under the sod, was much smaller the whole season; and at harvesting did not produce but a little more than one-half as much corn as the other parts of the field. The next year oats were sown on the same field; and *they* did not find the manure where it was plowed in; and it has never been seen or heard of since. It is admitted that when manure is spread on the surface, some of it does not get covered, and of course in part lost, but not half as much lost as when buried deep in the soil.

LOVETT PETERS.

Westboro', Feb. 2d, 1844.

☞We are much obliged to our respected correspondent for his communication. We coincide with his views generally, but must beg leave to differ on the point of spreading green manure on the surface, to be exposed "one or two days to the sun," before plowed in. We believe that much of the ammoniacal gases would escape to "manure the air," by such management. From what little experience we have had in the matter, we are of opinion that manure should never be applied in a green state, but first made into a compost, and spread and harrowed, or lightly plowed in; but if green manure is used, it should be, we think, immediately covered, but not plowed in deep, and thus protected from the wasting influences of the sun and air. In this point alone we differ.

Plowing manure in deep, as in the case alluded to by our correspondent, we think equally objectionable to exposing it on the surface—and he who adopts either mode and rejects the other, we think may be said to avoid Scylla only to strike on Charbydis. But the opinions of so experienced a farmer as our venerable correspondent, carry with them great weight, whatever mode they may favor; and it would illy become us to pronounce his practice a poor one, when his long experience has convinced him it is good. But the matter in question has two sides—and our little experience and more reflection, leads us to support the one which is supported by science; and which, we cannot but think, will prove the best in practice.—Ed.

From the Albany Cultivator.

DEMAND FOR LONG WOOL.

We have great pleasure in laying before our readers the following letter from Samuel Lawrence, Esq., of Lowell, in answer to one we addressed him, enclosing samples of wool from some Leicester sheep, owned by Mr Howard, associate editor of the Cultivator. It will be seen from this letter that rapid advances are making in this country in the manufacture of such goods as require long wool, such as is produced by the breeds of sheep known as Cotswolds, Leicesters, Lincolnshires, &c. and that the increasing demand for this kind of wool affords encouragement to the breeders of these sheep, which they have not heretofore enjoyed. It will be seen, also, that Mr S. expresses great confidence in the belief that the prospects of the wool-grower are fully equal to those of any other branch of husbandry.

Lowell, Jan. 10, 1844.

Editors of the Cultivator—My numerous engagements at the opening of the year, have prevented an earlier reply to your respected favor of the 28th ult.

I have examined the two samples of wool, and am of opinion that they are admirably adapted to combing purposes for the manufacture of *Mouslin de Laines.* The staple is long, strong and lustrous, qualities not desirable for felting purposes, especially the two latter. I judge these samples to be from Cotswold sheep, a breed which it is very desirable to propagate in this country, as the worsted business is just coming into existence. The secret of England's advance of all the world in the manufacture of worsted goods, lays in the fact of her possessing better breeds of sheep for the production of combing wools, and not from her superior skill in working them.

The worsted business in its various shapes, is to be of immense importance in this country, and it affords me sincere pleasure to be able to say to you that it has already been commenced in this State upon a liberal scale, by parties whose means and intelligence are a guaranty of its success. A great deal of talent and skill have been brought to bear upon this branch of industry, and if I am not greatly deceived, the time is near when old England herself will be astonished at our success. A number of hundred looms on mouslines are already in operation, and more in progress. In addition to the works already projected, a company is now being formed in Boston, with a capital of a million of dollars, for works on Mouslin de Laines, &c.

In reply to your inquiry about the kinds and quantity of wool used in the Middlesex mills, I have to say that we use about a million pounds yearly, of such kinds as are considered in this country the choicest produced—say full blood Saxony, and Saxony mixed with Merino. We are very fastidious in the selection of our wools, both as regards the blood and condition; and in consequence, we are in the habit of paying prices which many manufacturers think absurd.

I am clearly of the opinion that no branch of agriculture promises better than the culture of wool, and I sincerely hope more attention will be given to it than has been paid for the last few years.

Yours, SAM'L LAWRENCE.

Cabbage Heads from Stumps.—James Bates, of Norridgewock, Me., writing to the Farmers' Journal, says: "I do not know all your Boston gardeners are up to, but I do know that, if cabbage stumps of any variety are set out in the spring, in good order, one, two, three, or even four good sound heads will grow on them; and this they will do year after year, until they die by accident. They are managed in the following manner: The upper, narrow-leafed sprouts, which would bear seed, are carefully rubbed off, and likewise all the lower, round leafed ones, which latter will form heads, leaving only so many of these as the strength of the stump and the soil are capable of bringing to perfection. At our cattle show, Mr John Drew presented several such stumps, with one to four heads of low Dutch cabbage on each, which have borne for three years. He sets them out in earth in the cellar in autumn, cuts off the heads when required for use, and places the stumps pretty thick in the garden in spring. The labor is trifling, the cut worm gives no trouble, and the crop sure and abundant."

FIFTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE—Feb. 6.

The weather was rather unfavorable, but we are happy to state that the meeting was fully attended, and the subject under consideration, "The Management of Stock, as relates to their general care and feeding," was ably discussed, a number of gentlemen taking part, and sustaining the meeting with much animation—the President, Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., being in the chair.

Col. Jaques opened the discussion, and spoke as follows:—

Whatever I may offer upon the subjects connected with agriculture, I wish the gentlemen may distinctly understand that I disclaim any intention of dictation. My desire is, to communicate, as briefly as possible, my own experience and practice on these important subjects.

Domestic animals form a very important item in the agricultural products of New England. Taking into consideration *all* the purposes to which they are adapted for the *uses* and comforts of the great human family, I am of opinion that there has not been that practical science devoted to this branch of agriculture, that the importance of the subject demands; more particularly as applies to *neat* cattle. I find it important to lay a foundation for good constitutions, by rearing my calves *well*—allowing them to suck for the first three or four months, and to be well fed the first year. The heifers will then "come in," as it is termed, at two to two and a half years old, and be as ripe at that age, as those brought up on *skimmed milk* porridge are at the age of three to three and a half years. Their milking properties will be better developed. Thus one year will be gained.

Milk is of the first importance; next, the shambles; then, the yoke. At the Brighton Cattle Show, in Oct. 1816, the famous Danvers Oakes cow received the first premium. Satisfactory certificates showed that she calved April 5th; calf killed May 8th; that she gave through the summer, 17 quarts milk per day, and in the following December, there had been made from her milk 484 1-4 lbs. pure butter. I examined this cow with much attention, and thought there was no other kind of animal living, that would be so valuable to a *poor* man with a *large* family. By judicious management for a few years, a race of cows might be so modeled and formed as to be as productive as the Oakes cow. This opinion is founded upon my actual practice and experience for more than forty years—a record of which I have preserved. Our long legged, gaunt hogs of 40 years since, it may be remembered, were considered pretty smart hogs that would weigh 250 lbs. at 18 months. Now, the Mackay pigs at 12 months, weigh 400, and, probably, on much the same keep. Here, then, is an improvement of 50 per cent. or more. The same improvement can be made in our neat cattle. A *good* animal fed *well*, is much more profitable than a *poor* one. There are individual cows which may be fed with the best the country can produce, and still they would not compare with the Oakes cow.

In cutting feed for stock in winter, much saving may be made, by mixing the cut feed with wheat bran, or any kind of meal, slightly moistening it.

In the winter of 1836, milk was very scarce. At that time I kept 30 cows, 25 of which were in milk. On reference to my diary, Feb. 11th, of that year, I find the following directions were given to my foreman, to feed as follows: "For 30 cows, cut 30 bushels for one feed: one-third, English hay, one-third salt hay, and one-third rye or barley straw; add 30 quarts of wheat bran or shorts, and 10 quarts of oat and corn meal moistened with water." This quantity was given for one feed in the morning; the same quantity at noon, and at evening. In addition to which, I gave to each cow *in milk*, 1-4 bushel mangel wurtzel. This mode of feeding produced nearly or quite as much milk, as on the best grass feed in summer. Some of the cows gave a pailfull at each milking, twice a day. (For a similar mode of feeding, see N. E. Farmer, vol. vi. p. 14.) When no wheat bran or any kind of meal is given, I feed with long hay.

At a farmers' meeting in this place, I stated a fact within my knowledge, of two or three famous milch cows that became nearly dry: I was called to assign a reason. On inquiry, I found that each cow had been fed with 4 quarts of dry Indian meal per day, for 12 to 18 months: two of these cows were *very* fat: I came at once to the conclusion that the extreme fat had closed up the milk secretions, and that the food had turned to forming fat flesh. By giving 2 parts wheat bran or shorts, and 1 part Indian meal, it will produce as much milk, without injuring the milking properties.

The Oakes cow came into my possession some two or three years after her high feed on Indian meal, in 1816, and fell off very much in the quantity of milk. As an experiment, I reduced her in flesh, turned her to grass feed only, for a season, then took her up, and fed her high, but could not bring her to give more than 8 or 10 quarts of milk per day, ever after.

The subject of parturition, or the act of bringing forth the young, was mentioned at our last meeting. My views on this subject are, that most of the trouble and difficulty arises from the particular formation of the parents. For instance, a cow with a large, heavy head and horns; large, coarse limbs and light body, is, not unfrequently, narrow in the pelvis. The difficulty, however, more generally arises from the males. Bulls with large, heavy heads and horns; and large, heavy coarse limbs with light bodies, are pretty sure to produce large bony calves, giving the cow trouble in bringing forth. I have put a bull, whose head and horns were very light, muzzle so fine that he could drink out of a quart pot, with limbs fine and tapering, and whose weight was 2200 lbs., to yearling heifers of like form and character, not unfrequently; and have never found any difficulty in their bringing forth their young.

Calves intended to be raised, should be haltered and made fast by the second or third day after being dropped, and be led frequently by the halter, and with a light switch in your hand, apply it gently to his face whenever he attempts to press forward too fast. A very little attention will learn our neat cattle to be as handy to the halter as a horse.

The *language* used in breaking and managing domestic animals, should always be the same, for the same meaning, without variation. For instance, if I wish my horses or neat cattle to stop and stand, I use the word *whoa*. How many accidents might have been prevented if refractory horses had been *properly* taught the meaning of *whoa!*

The importance of a system of mild and kind treatment towards domestic animals, cannot be too often repeated or too strongly urged. To be sure, all animals will not show the same fawning as a spaniel by being caressed; but they are not insensible to *good* or bad treatment; they are creatures of habit, and have mighty good memories.

Cleanliness in stables where cattle are kept, is highly important, particularly the mangers: they should be brushed clean at least once a day. I well recollect being at a farmer's barn, some years since, who had large and deep mangers where he fed his cows: his manger was filled up near 20 inches deep, with hay-seed dust and unhealthy filth; on digging down to the bottom, I found it had been wet, and was then smoking hot. The farmer said, do you think it will make any difference to my cows? My reply was, by asking another question: Suppose you should have a large dish in which you put your various meals, and should allow the accumulations of the remains of those meals to stand for months; I think you would then learn how to pity your poor animals. He immediately went to work, and cleaned out the manger, and that too, without resorting to the experiment with the dish. The places where the cattle stand, should be swept clean, at *least* once a day, and well littered. Stalls for horses should be paved, either with brick or stone. I prefer brick placed edgewise; the stalls to be kept clean, and at night supplied with a good bed of straw. To allow a horse to stand or lie, for months on his own filth, and inhale its *perfume*, (as was suggested at a former meeting,) is not my practice.

It is the opinion of some that we ought not to resort to new importations for the improvement of our neat cattle. But why should we not take advantage of the immense improvements which have been made in England for the last fifty years? If a person wishes to obtain the Bartlett pear, (so famous among us,) does he try to raise them from the seed, or does he take the scions?

Although the *management* of stock is the subject under consideration, I will take the liberty of saying a few words on the subject of a race of horses. Fortunately, we have among us a kind of horse formed by a cross of the Normandy or Canadian stallion on the Vermont mares, which combine the properties so desirable for "Yankee notions;" viz: to go to church, go to mill, under the saddle, to the plow, the gig, and coach. They are of great endurance, carrying weight a long distance, and docile; but if put to their mettle, are a full hand for the best whip.

Cheever Newhall, Esq., who is the owner of a fine farm in Dorchester, next addressed the meeting: his remarks were listened to with deep attention, and we are happy to have it in our power to give them in his own language:—

Mr President—As I am entirely unaccustomed to speak in public, I must therefore claim your indulgence while I attempt to make a statement of my mode of cultivating and feeding.

I believe the soiling of cattle has never been much practiced in this country; indeed, the only attempt I have known, was made by a distinguished individual in Quincy, many years ago. This eminent man has since been called to perform other duties, and it is very much to be regretted that the agricultural part of the community have not had, of late years, the benefit of his counsel in that department of science.

I have given some attention to this subject for two years past, before which I pastured my cows

in summer. Last season, I fed my cows, 17 in number, from the 10th of May to the 10th of June, on the produce of one acre of rye, cut green and fed to them in the barn, together with about 3 lbs. of salt hay and one quart of meal each per day during that time. Part of the same piece of rye was cut a second time, and served the same number of cows five days. This piece of rye was sowed about the first of August of the year previous, at the rate of two bushels of seed per acre. This quantity was not considered quite sufficient, and in my next year's sowing, I used 2 1-2 bushels of rye per acre. After the rye was consumed, they were kept upon clover, cut and fed in the same way, until the latter part of July. Part of this clover was the Southern variety for early use, and part Northern, which is a few days later. I then commenced upon green corn fodder, sowed for that purpose, and fed them upon that until the middle of September: after that, they were turned into my mowing fields until the hard frosts came. During the time they were in these fields, they were partly kept upon the tops of beets, ruta baga and turnips. These tops were not gathered into heaps, but were scattered over the ground at the time they were cut, and permitted to remain there several days, to be used as wanted. No more than was wanted for one day, were carried to the barn at a time. When tops are kept in this way, they will remain good for 8 or 10 days, and cows will eat them readily; and if dealt out to them daily in moderate quantities, they do no harm to the milk.

I raise for winter use, ruta baga and turnips. These will not affect the taste of the milk, if kept in a cool cellar, where they do not heat. My practice on taking them from the field is, to place on the barn floor as many as my cattle will consume up to the middle of December: after that, always to keep at least one week's supply there, so that any unpleasant flavor they may have imbibed in the cellar, may have a chance to escape. In this way of feeding, you may be sure they will give no unpleasant taste to the milk.

Mr President, I will say a few words in regard to my manner of raising corn fodder. Last year, I sowed half an acre the first of May, for early use. Sowed Northern corn, which yielded one-third less than the Southern. The main crop for late autumn and winter use, was planted on the 7th of June, in drills three feet apart, and scattered pretty thick in the drill, so as three bushels of seed per acre was used, of the Southern yellow-flat. The ground was broken up a few days before; manured upon the surface and harrowed; after which a furrow was made with a one-horse plow, the corn dropped and covered. After it came up, a cultivator was passed between the rows twice, and hoed twice.

My cows ate what they wanted until the 7th of September, at which time I had rather more than an acre standing. It was then cut up at the bottom, and suffered to lay upon the ground two days. It was then tied into bundles of a convenient size, and put up into shocks that would weigh about 300 pounds when dry. It remained in this state about three weeks, when it was dry enough for winter use.

I measured one square rod of the ground on which this corn grew, and carefully weighed the produce: it weighed 404 lbs. at the time it was cut, which is more than 32 tons to the acre. It was again weighed when perfectly dry, and weighed 160 lbs. to the rod, which is nearly 13 tons to the acre.

I think that rye, lucerne, clover and corn fodder, are the best and most economical articles for feeding to cattle green,—that corn fodder, in particular, both for summer and winter use as *food for cows*, can be raised, *on good land*, at less expense than either hay or vegetables.

Mr President, at our meeting here last week, much was said upon the importance of watering cows frequently. Many of the speakers said they should have water four or five times a day.

Soon after I commenced farming, I observed that cows would drink quite often in summer, when at pasture, and when water was handy; and although a stream of water is very near my barn, I found *in winter* they would frequently refuse to drink, and sometimes would go without the whole day, because of the difficulty of getting to the water on account of the *ice*; and in stormy weather, some of them would drink only once a day. This led me to adopt some way of watering them in the barn. Several years ago, I had a trough made the whole length of the manger, about 5 inches deep and 6 inches wide, and placed against the frame of the stanchel. It is made of common inch board, and is water tight. At one end of this trough is a pump, with which the cows are supplied with water, summer and winter. The cost of this pump was not more than five or six dollars, and the well was not expensive, as it is but six feet deep.

Mr President, although manure is not the subject of discussion this evening, yet with your permission, I will state my manner of saving the manure of cows.

I have a cellar under the barn where my cows stand: the manure they make is dropped down twice a day, when it is immediately covered with rotten peat or meadow muck, placed near for that purpose—two or three parts of muck to one of manure. Such is the large quantity of urine voided by them when kept upon green corn feed, that I have no doubt it would saturate thoroughly five parts of dry muck with one of the mixture of dung and urine.

I have had some experience in applying manure thus saved, and have no hesitation in saying that this mixture of two or three parts of meadow muck with one of the droppings from the cows, is worth more than the same weight of clear cow manure, for any kind of crops I raise. I *know* it is worth more when applied to *corn*.

Hon. Allen Dodge said, in regard to soiling cattle and feeding with corn fodder, he had some experience. He had tried Southern corn, but found by the time he wished to use it, that it had grown so rank that the cows left a large portion of the butts; he therefore discontinued the use of the Southern corn and planted the Northern. Last summer he tried sweet corn, and if he could judge by the avidity with which the cows ate it, he thought it must be better for milk than any other variety. He had made no experiment to test its comparative value with other varieties, and should like to know if any gentleman present had any experience with it. He said it was a general practice among the farmers in Essex County, to feed their cattle on corn fodder at night in dry weather, when the feed in their pastures was short. He had weighed a rod of Southern corn, cut up green, and found it weighed at the rate (as we understood him) of about 20 tons to the acre.

(Concluded on editorial page.)

AGRICULTURAL READERS.

In the early part of our experience as publisher of an agricultural paper, we found that the readers of such journals could be divided into two classes, one of which read with profit, the other with very little if any. Of course we do not include in either of these classes, those farmers who already know every thing, despise all agricultural reading, and treat the idea of any improvement in husbandry with the most profound contempt. The number belonging to this class is much reduced, but specimens are occasionally met with.

Farmer A. belongs to the class of readers that receive and peruse agricultural papers with little profit. The reason is, he does not sufficiently exercise his own judgment in reference to the details of farming. He reads a statement that such a farmer was eminently successful in the cultivation of such a crop; the growing or fattening of such or such an animal; or the management in general of a farm on the principles of rotation; and he determines at once to do the same. He does not stop to inquire whether his soil is suited to the particular crop he wishes to grow, whether it is too wet or too dry, too light or too heavy, rich or poor—but pursuing the course pointed out by the successful farmer, he miserably fails in his crop, or his animals, and frequently throws on the publication or its correspondent, the blame which fairly belongs to himself.

Farmer B., on the contrary, is one of a class of readers that find a decided profit in the perusal of agricultural papers. He takes the same papers as A., but wholly escapes the mistakes into which A. is constantly falling. The reason is to be found in the fact that he exercises his judgment in managing his farm; and is fully aware that a course of husbandry that would be successful on one kind of soil, or one particular location, would be ruinous on another. Because a great crop, or fine animals, have been produced under certain circumstances, he does not go on to infer that they will be so in all; and it is in this discrimination and adaptation, that the cause of his success is found. He reads, compares, reflects, and decides whether a course is suitable for him, his soil, or circumstances, before he adopts it. His agricultural reading furnishes him the means of doing this correctly, and in that he finds a great advantage.

Agricultural publications are not intended to supersede the use of the judgment in matters of practice, among those who receive them; their great office is to enable the farmer to judge correctly as to the proper course for him to pursue; to bring to his notice all improvements in husbandry and agricultural implements, that he may choose wisely for himself; to show what has been done by others, and the way it has been done, that if in the same circumstances, and it is desirable, he may do so too; and to excite to improvement by showing it is practicable and profitable. The farmer must do as do men in other cases—obtain all the light and information possible by reading, and then reflect, reason, decide, and practice for himself.—*Alb. Cult.*

Good thoughts, like good company, will never stay where they are not civilly entertained; while bad thoughts, like ill-mannered guests, press for admission, or, like nightly robbers, lurk secretly about, waiting for an unguarded moment to creep in and destroy.

☞The subjoined communication from one who unites in an eminent degree the experience of the practical, with the wisdom of the scientific farmer, will be perused with pleasure by those of our readers who have no antipathy to science as an aid to the farmer—and we hope *all* of them are free of such an unworthy, not to say silly feeling. If any of them do entertain it, *we* shall never cater for its gratification, however much in this respect we may differ from the conductors of other presses we might name. "A little learning," it has been truly said, "is a dangerous thing"—but it becomes absolutely loathsome when, instead of advising others to seek light, it uses its influence to keep them in the dark, teaching them to spurn as "*only theory*," the recommendations of those more highly favored with intelligence and qualified by study and experiment to impart wisdom to others.

The views of our respected correspondent relative to the importance of a knowledge of scientific principles to the farmer, commend themselves to every candid and reflective mind. The aid of one such man as he, will have more effect in promoting the application of scientific principles to our husbandry, than the combined efforts of a host of the disciples of the Jack Cade school can have to prevent it.

We hope to hear from our correspondent again, and more fully, upon lime as a manure—and trust he may be disposed, whenever opportunity offers, to communicate his views on other topics pertaining to the farm, for the benefit of our readers. While we thank him for this favor, we are inclined like Oliver Twist, to hold out our hand and ask for "more."—Ed.

THE AID OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE: LIME AS A MANURE, &c.

Mr Breck—I always read the "sayings and doings" of the agricultural meetings at your State House, with much pleasure, and regret that you do not *report* more fully the remarks of the various speakers, as most of them are doubtless practical farmers, whose experience and knowledge must be of great interest to the farming community at large.

In the N. E. Farmer of the 24th inst., you have given a synopsis of the remarks at the second meeting, upon manures—a subject that lies at the foundation of successful farming. And from the remarks quoted from the "Traveller," I infer that what is called scientific farming, or the application of chemical principles to the subject, was not considered, by at least some of the speakers, as practically of much use. Perhaps I may be wrong in my conclusions, but I am a New England farmer, and one that either holds the plow or drives; and I feel a deep interest in the prosperity and welfare of my brother farmers here in "the cold and sterile North," and in these times, with the low price of produce, and for the better enabling us to compete with the farmers of the fertile West, it behoves us to take advantage of every discovery that science can afford.

Now, every person of common observation knows, or believes, that that the whole planetary system is governed by certain fixed and invariable laws, and by the labors and investigations of scientific men, these laws have been so far discovered, that an astronomer can calculate to the fraction of a second, when celestial phenomena are to recur, after the lapse of long periods of time. And can any one suppose that the laws that govern the vegetable world are any less certain and fixed, than those that direct the movements of the planetary system? For one, I believe they are no less definite; and for the most skilful and economical management of a farm, the cultivator should possess a good knowledge of those scientific principles, as developed and brought to bear upon the subject within a very few years past, by the labors and researches of numerous scientific men, both in Europe and this country. Chemistry and geology, as connected with agriculture, are of great importance to the farmer, and by their application to the subject, the "why and the wherefore" of many things that were once dark and mysterious, are rendered clear as the noonday sun.

The *elements* that enter into the composition of vegetation, are but few in number, but are susceptible of an infinity of combinations, and of yielding an endless variety of products. These elements, their names, nature, &c. &c., are very familiarly explained in the excellent treatise on manures, by Dr. Dana, which you are now publishing. And I think there is no farmer so wise but that he might be greatly benefited by the study of this and similar works, that can now be easily and cheaply obtained. The Doctor, in the outset, very truly tells us the whole doctrine and law of agriculture is, first, "that plants need certain substances which are essential to their growth": and, second, that "manure contains all those substances which plants want." But the grand difficulty with farmers is, a deficiency of manure, and generally their limited knowledge of chemistry prevents their "looking beyond the barnyard for it." But with a good knowledge of it, a farmer's only excuse for a deficiency of manure would be—indolence. There are but few who are willing to acknowledge the true cause—ignorance; but the practice of too many proclaim it; an instance or two of which I will relate.

A farmer, with a naturally good farm, complains that it is much less productive than formerly. He says, in his father's days they always had corn and grain to sell; but *now* he frequently has to purchase them. By many he is considered a good farmer; but let us take a look about his premises, and see how he manages. Why, every year after making soap for family use, the bones after being boiled in lye, (and he generally kills one or two beef creatures, beside sheep and hogs,) are carefully gathered and piled up to bleach year after year, and gives one an idea of what the prophet Ezekiel saw in one of his visions. The leached ashes are as carefully thrown into a heap till some loads have accumulated, and near by is a large heap of lime mortar taken from the walls of an old house he pulled down several years since. He probably considers the above materials *poison*, though I believe they are not labelled as such. In the spring his manure heaps from the hovel windows, are carted out into a field, and left through the summer without any covering, or addition of muck or loam. He says it gets well *rotted* during the summer, without rotting the end of his barn, as it would if left against it.

Another, whose farm adjoins, pursues a somewhat different course. He has several acres of wet land that he mows; the crop consisting of brakes and coarse grasses. During the winter, this is thrown into his yard, and makes a good litter for his stock: by the time his cattle are turned out to pasture, his yard is covered to the depth of 12 or 15 inches with manure and litter: this remains in the yard till August or first of September: then it is thrown into a large heap, for the purpose, as he says, of rotting it and preparing it to be carted out in October or November, to be spread upon green-sward and plowed in for a corn crop the next season. The past season, his boys, partly by way of frolic, threw up the pile some 12 or 15 feet in height, and in a few days they got the fermentation upon the high steam pressure principle, and the way in which the ammonia and carbonic acid escaped, ought to have been a *caution* to a farmer whose corn crops do not average over 20 bushels per acre. But there is an old saying that there 's no great loss without some small gain; and in this case, the water in the heap was decomposed, its hydrogen combined with the nitrogen, and formed ammonia; and its oxygen with the carbon, and formed carbonic acid gas. This process went on till the moisture of the heap was nearly expended, and the gases had escaped into the air—and the materials left were well "fire-fanged," and the heap was much lighter to shovel over and cart out—here was the small gain!

Now, if either of these farmers understood the true principles of agriculture, they would pursue a very different course. Probably they are aware that their growing corn or potatoes do not bolt their food as the boa constrictor does a rabbit, but yet they are as ignorant of the elements that enter into and form the growth of their plants, as the Indians were when the colonists landed at Plymouth.

Dr. Dana and others assure us that "the nitrogen present in the manure expresses its true value." If so, it is important that it be saved for the benefit of the crops. It is not pretended by any one that it is taken into the plant by the leaves from the atmosphere, but enters by the roots in solution with water. During fermentation of manure, nitrogen is evolved and combines with hydrogen and forms ammonia; and dissolved by water, it is absorbed by the rootlets of plants; and one of the most plausible theories of its use and action upon vegetation, that I have ever read, is in a communication published in the London Farmer's Magazine, Dec. No. 1842, entitled, "A new Theory of the Action of Azote: by Edward Addison." I should be much gratified to see it republished in your paper, and have the opinions of Drs. Dana and Jackson or Mr Teschemacher, upon the views of the writer.

I observed near the commencement of this paper, that by the application of science, we learned the why and wherefore of many things that once were dark and mysterious. By analysis, the constituents of various plants are ascertained--some yield a considerable portion of gypsum, that is, sulphuric acid and lime. Clover contains notable portions of it, and experience has proved beyond all doubt that it is a valuable application to a clover ley. Observation, too, confirms the fact; for wherever the rocks in the soil contain much sulphur and iron, they are slowly decomposed by the action of the oxygen of the air and water, and form sulphates of potash, lime, iron, &c. The rains and spring waters wash these sulphates from the hill sides, and spray them over the low grounds, and in such spots clover and white honeysuckle are found to flourish luxuriantly year after year, among the wild and coarse grasses, in very wet and cold soils. The reason is, they find in these sulphates a congenial food or element. And I have no doubt if such lands were thrown into beds or otherwise drained and sowed with clover and honeysuckle seed, and occasionally irrigated with the water that

oozes from the hills, and top-dressed with manure and lime, they would form permanent and perennial clover fields.

The cabbage and turnip family of plants, yield sulphur upon analysis. And soils impregnated with it, when well manured, are very favorable to the growth of such crops, as I know from experiment; but they are very unfavorable to a crop of corn, corroding or rusting the main root in its early growth.

Whatever difference of opinion there may be in the minds of men, in respect to the value of lime for agricultural purposes generally, I think there can be no doubt of its utility on lands that naturally contain sulphur and iron in any quantity. Lime applied to such soils, combines with the sulphates, and neutralizes them; the lime becoming gypsum, and the farmer possessing such lands, by liming, may manufacture "home-made gypsum," cheaper than he can obtain it from Nova Scotia.

There have been a great many theories in respect to the action of plaster. Prof. Liebig's, I believe, is the latest. He says its use is in fixing the ammonia that falls in the rains and snow. But many object to this: they say if his theory was correct, its action would ever be the same in all cases and in all soils, which every one knows is not the fact; for on many soils and crops, it has no perceptible effect whatever. Possibly, such soils already contain a supply of gypsum, as it is quite abundant in many—so much so, that tea-kettles in which well water is boiled, are soon coated with a thick layer of it. I believe it is quite certain that rain water does hold ammonia in solution; for all decaying animal and vegetable matter yields it, and when in a gaseous form, it is much lighter than common air, and will ascend; and by a wise provision of nature, water will absorb about 500 times its own bulk of it, and of course when the rains descend, they bring down the ammonia with it. That gypsum will fix the ammonia of putrid urine, I have ascertained to a certainty. Liebig recommends that stable floors and hovels be occasionally strewed with plaster, to fix the ammonia. The utility of this, is doubted by many in England and here. But the question will probably be settled the coming season. Professor Henslow, of England, has the past summer induced some sixty farmers to institute a series of experiments to test the truth or error of Liebig's theory. Each experimenter is to make, or rather has made, two compost heaps of manure and other materials, according to a fixed rule (by weight and measure,) laid down by Prof. H. The only difference is, that one of the heaps is to have the addition of a given quantity of gypsum, supposed to be sufficient to fix all the ammonia that may be generated during the fermentation of the heap. These composts will be applied side by side, to various soils and a variety of crops, and the results and products will be carefully noted and compared. These experiments will, I think, *fix* the question one way or the other.

Since writing the foregoing, I have received from a friend, a copy of the Mass. Ploughman, of the 20th inst. In some remarks by the editor on the use of lime as a manure, by way of comment upon a communication of a correspondent of that paper, over the signature of "C.," I perceive my friend Buckminster still goes "dead set" against lime. In the course of his remarks, he says, "that Dr. Jackson is but a theorist, and that he has given but little satisfaction to his friends when he has endeavored to prove the importance of adding more lime to our New England soils." But I shall not take up the cudgel in defence of Dr. J., for he is every way competent to defend himself whenever he may deem any attack upon him worthy of his notice. But I would remark, that among the great variety of soils in New England, we doubtless have many that will correspond with some of the soils in France, England, Scotland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. And would not the same kinds of manures, whether animal, vegetable, saline, or mineral, produce equally good results in New England, on similar soils and crops, that they do in the countries and States above named.

In France, lime is freely and abundantly applied to their lands for manure, and yields most profitable returns for the expenditure. In England and Scotland, it is used in quantities that would startle a Yankee farmer. Now is it possible that the English and Scotch *tenant* farmers can so little understand their pecuniary interest, as to annually throw away such large sums for lime, that does not benefit their crops, nor yield any adequate returns towards paying their rents? If Mr Buckminster will look over the London Farmer's Magazine, for 1843, he may there learn from the farmers' own statements, something of the amount they apply to their lands, and the advantage they derive from it.

The disturbances the last year or two in Wales, were almost wholly caused by the exorbitant *tolls* the poor Welch peasantry had to pay upon the turnpikes for the privilege of carting lime to be used for manure. And of so much importance do they consider it, that they jeopardized their necks to obtain it for their crops.

The shell marls of Virginia contain a very large per cent. of lime; and any one that has ever read Mr Ruffin's work on the Calcareous Marls of Virginia, must come to one of these conclusions—either that by a judicious application of marl, the worn out soils of lower Virginia may be soon brought back to their original fertility—or, that Mr Ruffin labored under a strong delusion when he wrote his valuable essay.

The Hon. W. C. Rives, of Virginia, in an address before the Albemarle Agricultural Society, in October, 1842, stated that he had used about 12,000 bushels of lime on about 150 acres of land, an average of 80 bushels per acre. He says, that he has not perceived that it much benefited the crop of corn or wheat that immediately preceded the liming; but this, he says, "was more than compensated by the marked, unequivocal, and decided effect that I have never failed to perceive, from lime *alone* in the *clover* succeeding the wheat crop;" and he further says, "all my conclusions in regard to lime, would lead me to the opinion, that it is the *most permanent of all manures.*"

I have used lime to some extent, viz: some cartloads from the tanner's, after having been used for liming hides, and some casks of fresh or quick lime. The two kinds have been used in composts, and also directly applied to the land, and its application has been attended with as marked and decided good effect, as it has with Mr Rives.

Yours, &c. LEVI BARTLETT.

Warner, N. H., Jan. 30, 1844.

MERCER OR CHENANGO POTATO.

We have heard some complaints within a few years, that this potato was not as good as it used to be, or that it had degenerated. The following extract which we make from a well written communication in the Maine Farmer, agrees so well with our experience and opinions, that we feel a pleasure in laying it before the readers of the Cultivator. The remedy he proposes will not fail.—*Alb. Cult.*

"But has the Chenango degenerated? We answer yes. The Chenango when first introduced into this State, was a mixture of two distinct varieties; one kind is always very good, and always produces its like, while the other is comparatively bad, and yields after its kind. Every body knows, for every body has eaten Chenangoes, that some of them when cooked, are white, dry, and good flavored, while others are very dark blue through the whole potato, watery and strong flavored. The light kind is always fit for the table, and the dark, never, The light kind are the best formed and yield the best. The dark kind does not ripen so early as the light. In the raw state, it is difficult if not impossible, to distinguish in all cases the one from the other; but when cooked or cut, they are easily distinguished. The dark variety has increased upon the light, and being unfit for the table, has caused the Chenango to be less esteemed. As we planted this year but two acres, we concluded to *improve* the Chenango for our own use; and accordingly when cutting our seed, we rejected the dark kind. The result is as we expected, and is satisfactory. We now know the Chenango can be so improved in a single season, as to be as perfect a variety as ever grew: that is, that every potato of suitable size to cook, will be *good* when cooked."

Dairying.—Phineas Hardy, of Jefferson co. in this State, keeps 49 cows. He made, last year, 14,000 lbs. cheese, and 2000 lbs. butter. He rears his cows. His cows gave an average of 14 to 15 quarts per day, on pasture; in the best part of the grass season, the best of them give 20 quarts per day. He has tried a cross with the Durham breed, and is satisfied that it is an improvement; prefers the *half* bloods to those which have either more or less of the Durham: says they are better milkers, keep easier, and hold out longer—that is, their constitutions are better.—*Alb. Cult.*

Green Peas in Winter.—The editor of the Maine Cultivator says he saw, not long since, "green peas as succulent to all appearance as they were when plucked from the vine some five or six months before." The mode of preparing them, is to pick when of the proper size for eating, shell, and carefully dry on *cloths* in the *shade*. All the care necessary is, to prevent their moulding; this done, they will be fine and sweet. Beans may be preserved in the same way, and with perfect success. If in addition, a stack of green corn is secured at the proper time, as it may easily be, by scalding on the cob when fit for roasting or boiling, shelling, and carefully drying, a dish of all these luxuries may be enjoyed in January or March.—*Ib.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Feb. 14, 1844.

FIFTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

(Continued from page 259.)

Hon. B. V. French, of Braintree, remarked that he had been in the habit of sowing corn for his cattle in drills. He had sowed the Northern, Southern, and sweet corn. He was unable to state precisely which of the different varieties was the best, but was inclined to think the Southern was most to be preferred. Corn for soiling, should not all be planted at the same time, but at different periods, that a succession of green and tender fodder might be furnished for the cattle: in this way he avoided that of a rank growth.

In Great Britain, the cultivation of turnips is of great importance, and the introduction of their improved culture, had produced a great revolution in the agriculture of that country: they formed an important item in the food of their cattle. Next in importance to the turnip culture, was the discovery of thorough draining and subsoil plowing. He alluded to the turnip because it was an easy crop: some were prejudiced against it on account of the bad flavor it sometimes imparts to the milk: but if fed in the manner which he practiced, he believed there would be no complaint of that nature. He was in the habit of supplying milk for the market: has fed his cows for three months on turnips, and heard no complaint. His cows are first milked in the morning; the manger is then cleaned out, and one-half bushel of cut turnips are given to each cow: after this they are fed with salt hay: they are then curried and perfectly cleaned, and if the weather is suitable, they are turned out and watered, or if the weather is severe, they are watered in the barn in a trough before them. At noon, he gave them a pailfull of bran shorts—then English hay; and in the evening they were milked again. He feeds the tops of turnips to his cows, without any bad results.

He thought when we turned our attention more to the subject of soiling, we should generally adopt that practice. He said it was surprising to see the great quantity of urine and other excrements the cattle voided when kept up. The soiling system would greatly increase the quantity of manure.

It is important that cattle should be kindly attended. He had found it to be the best policy to give his cows in charge of one person, who feeds, cleans, waters, milks, and keeps a diary of every thing relating to them.* It is necessary in our climate to raise corn fodder or something of the kind to feed out to the cows when the pastures fail, which is at a time when farmers are engaged in haying, and the cows were too often neglected amid the press of work at that busy season. If the cows are not supplied with green food at this time, they will dry up, and all efforts to restore them afterwards would fail He thought there was nothing better for them for this purpose, than corn fodder. Lucerne he deemed a very important crop for soiling, where there was a free soil. He had seen five crops cut in one year: the first crop was ready to be cut early in the spring, when the early grass was just starting in the pastures. It is well calculated for our climate, as it bears the drought well: it throws its roots deep into the soil: he once examined in the month of October, the roots of plants sowed in May, and found they had penetrated to the depth of 30 inches.

Raising of roots he thought of great importance to all farmers, for milch cows. He feeds out turnips to his cattle from the time of harvesting until the present period of the year, and carrots and beets until spring. He turns out his cows to pasture the first of June, and in about 30 days the pastures begin to fail, and he then looks out for other feed.

He had found by keeping his cows up and feeding them so high, there was some difficulty in making them breed, and asked information of others, if they had experienced the same trouble.

The President, Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., was sorry to confess that he has had but little experience in the subject under discussion, but he was reminded of his home in younger days, and of this he had many pleasing reminiscences and of his father's proceedings in agricultural matters. He had witnessed some of the operations on his father's farm at Quincy, where his father had made many experiments in soiling cattle. He believed he was the first to introduce the soiling system into this country; that he had kept the whole stock of cows, which formerly had required 90 acres when they run at large, on 15 only, when shut up and fed on green fodder. But the system could not be adopted on all farms. He thought the soiling plan would ultimately prevail on lands that were suitable for it near the city.

Mr Quincy said there were no less than 7 miles of interior fence on the same farm while his grandfather owned it, but now there is none: the cattle are not suffered to run on any part of it. That as there are no rocks of any consequence on it, the expense of keeping up seven miles of interior fence of posts and rails, would be greater than the expense of cutting grass and green fodder for the stock.

As to the celebrated Oakes cow which had been alluded to, Mr Quincy said he was himself brought up upon the milk of that celebrated animal. No one knew her origin: she was like Melchisedek, without father or mother, so far as he knew. She came from Danvers, and was purchased of parson Oakes of that place: she was a beautiful animal, and he was glad she fell into so good hands as Col. Jaques'.

Mr Q. said his father's plan was to grow a constant succession of crops, so that the cows should be supplied with green feed through the season. His neighbors used to remark that the old gentleman could farm well as long as he could draw on the banks: but they seemed to doubt whether this was a profitable mode. Yet he said the accounts always appeared to balance well at the end of the year—quite as well as bank accounts.

It was a remark of his father, that the business of the farmer was the happiest occupation in which a man could be engaged; and Mr Quincy hoped that at some future day, he should be able to relate his *experience* instead of his reminiscences.

Mr Newhall remarked, that he thought it important to keep cattle warm in winter; that by so doing, with proper care in other respects, he was able to obtain the same quantity of milk during the severe cold weather as before: his barn was so warm that ice was of rare occurrence in it.

Hon. Mr Gardner, of Bristol, said he had been extremely gratified with the remarks from the chair, because he was sure the gentleman was a farmer in theory if not in practice. Mr Gardner said that in the discussions which had taken place in the Senate last year whenever the subject of agriculture was the theme, he was surprised at the amount and accuracy of the agricultural knowledge Mr Quincy exhibited; but the reason for this had now been explained.

He said feeding cattle with green fodder had not been much in vogue in his vicinity, but it was getting into favor among farmers. The Hon. Mr Burgess makes use of it. He thought the Hon. gentleman from Norfolk fed his cows very luxuriously: they must fare sumptuously every day.

Mr Quincy remarked, that what had been said during the discussion in reference to making animals docile, reminded him of what he had read in Mr Catlin's travels among the Indians of the West, whose plan to tame wild young buffaloes was, to breathe forcibly into their nostrils, which always had the desired effect: they would then follow the Indians like a dog. He could not account for this phenomenon—whether it was mesmerism, animal magnetism, or what, he could not tell. He had also read in a Review, of an individual who was noted for having great power in breaking refractory animals, and who was known by the name of the "horse whisperer." His method was to go alone into the stable where the animal was kept, and after a short time, would return with him perfectly subdued, being no longer cross or refractory. What his process was, no one knew, for he kept it to himself, and the secret died with him. Like animal magnetism, he believed there was something in this breathing, but what it was he did not know, and asked if any one present had ever tried this method of breaking animals.

Col. Jaques said he had seen similar accounts of such practices, and had faith in the virtue of some of them. He believed animals knew more than we were accustomed to allow they did; and they can readily distinguish the man who has no fear of them from him who has.

Some years ago, he obtained an *entire horse* or stallion from New Hampshire, that had been very cross and refractory, and with difficulty managed. He was put in his stable, and he approached him by pressing himself against the side of the horse, and passing his arm over his neck, bringing his head under his arm, and so to his face, with soothing language. The horse soon commenced feeding;—it is now some years since, and from that time to the present, the animal has shown no vicious disposition.

Mr Quincy here related an anecdote, of which he was reminded by what had been said of taming wild horses. An Irishman sold a horse which he warranted to be an "honest one." After the disposal, the horse having been found quite wild, he was asked why he had called him an honest horse? to which he replied, that whenever he attempted to mount him, the horse gave strong indications that he would throw him, and he was invariably found to be as good as his promise!

"Mr Monson said he had been in the practice of fattening cattle for a long time. Many farmers have an idea that if cattle are often removed to new pastures, they will fatten better than when kept steadily in one lot. He had tried the plan to his satisfaction, and he was well satisfied *that it is not a good plan* to shift cattle from pasture to pasture. He had practiced shifting them once in two or three weeks through the summer; but he found that they gained more fat and tallow when kept *through the whole summer* in one pasture, than when they were shifted. Even in autumn, he said they would lay on more fat in a good summer pasture than what is called fall feed, or rowen."

Mr Buckminster, of the Ploughman, stated that this was agreeable to his own experience. As to rearing calves, he thought it best to let them suck the mother *for a time*. He was certain that the milk which *first* comes from the mother, was the very best for the young calf. It gives him *bone*—for even chemists agree that milk has much lime in it, and is calculated better than any other substance to give bone to the youngling.

*Mr French might have added that he practiced the most thorough cleanliness in his stable: each cow has a stall by herself, and a man in constant attendance in feeding, carding, cleansing and milking. The milk is put away as fast as taken, and strained into a large tin can, where all the milk is equalized, as to quality, and then put into small cans for his customers in the city. With such keeping and thorough cleanliness, his milk cannot fail to give satisfaction to those who like it in its purity.—Ed.

☞We are obliged to defer Mr Merriam's remarks at the last agricultural meeting, a report of which he has obligingly furnished us.

☞The crowded state of our columns excludes the continuation of Dr. Dana's Essay, and other matters.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending Feb. 11.

Feb. 1844.	7,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	5	23	27	26	N. E.
Tuesday,	6	27	35	32	N. E.
Wednesday,	7	24	38	28	N.
Thursday,	8	24	33	27	N.
Friday,	9	17	29	18	N. W.
Saturday,	10	*5	11	17	N. W.
Sunday,	11	6	20	21	N.

*below.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Feb. 12, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 460 Beef Cattle, 1100 Sheep and 40 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—We quote to correspond with last week, viz: a few extra $4 75 a 5 00, first quality $4 25 a $4 50, second quality $4 00 a $4 25, third quality $3 50 a $ 4 00.

Sheep.—We quote lots from $1 50 to $2 00. Wethers from $2 75 to $4 00.

Swine.—No lots sold to peddle. At retail from 4 to 6 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 37½ to 2 62 per bushel. Red Top 45 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 00 to 12c.—Southern, 10 a 12 c. Flax Seed, $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 75 per bushel.

GRAIN.—The demand has been very languid during the past week, and a large portion of the late arrivals remain unsold.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 51 a 52—do. do. white 48 a 49—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 67 a 68—do. Southern, 63 a 65 — Oats, Southern, 30 a 32—Northern do. 34 to 35—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 30 a 40—Bran, 20 a 23.

FLOUR.—There has been great activity in the market during the whole of the week past, and large sales both for export and home use. The dealers have operated freely, and the market closes very firm.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $0 00 a 5 12½—do. wharf, $0 00 a 5 00—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 5 12½—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 5 00 —Fredericksburg, low P'd 4 mos. $5 00 a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $5 00 a 5 50—Richmond Canal, $5 00 a 5 12 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $5 00 a 5 25—Genesee, common, cash, $5 18 a 5 25— do fancy brands $5 31 a 5 37 — Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $5 00 a 5 25. Rye, $3 62 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 75 a 2 87.

PROVISIONS. The business doing the past week in Beef and Pork has not been to any great extent. Lard is in better demand.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $7 00 a 7 25—Navy—$6 25 a 0 00.—No. 1, $6 00 a 0 00—do Prime $5 00 a 5 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $12 00 a 12 50—do Clear $11 50 a 12 00 do. Mess, 9 50 a 10 00—do Prime $8 50 a 0 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 a 0 00— —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 12 a 14—do store, uninspected, 0 a 00—do dairy, 14 cts. a 17—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 6¾ a 7 —do South and Western, 6¾ a 7 — Hams, Boston, 0 a 0 — Southern and Western, 5 a 5¼—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

The market is without change in prices, with a good demand. The stock of all descriptions is much reduced, and holders are quite firm.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 37 a 41 c.—American full blood, do 35 a 37—Do. 3-4 do 32 a 35—Do. 1-2 do 29 a 30—1-4 and common do 25 a 28 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 23—Do. unwashed, 9 a 13—Bengasi do 6 a 13—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 30 a 35—No. 1 do. do. do. 27 a 30—No. 2 do do do 22 a 25—No. 3 do do do 15 a 18.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 6½ a 7; 2d do 4½ a 5. 1842, 0.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

EGGS, 22 a 28.

POULTRY. Turkies per lb. from 9 to 12cts.—Geese common 7 to 9—Bremen 10 to 12—Chickens 6 to 10—Ducks 8 to 10.

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDNER,

A middle aged married man, has a practical knowledge of the management of Vines, Greenhouse Plants, the Flower and Kitchen Garden; is also well acquainted with the Pruning and Training of wall Trees has had more then 20 years' experience, can have a good character if required from the place he is leaving.

Apply to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., No. 51 North Market Street, Boston. Feb. 14.

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDNER.

A young man who understands the Green House, Hot House, Forcing, Nursery, Flower and Kitchen Gardening, in all its various branches, and who has had several years experience in one of the best places in New England, wishes a situation in any private or public establishment. Can furnish the best reference.

A line addressed to B. W. O. Roxbury, Mass., will command immediate attention. Feb. 14.

SITUATION WANTED AS GARDNER

By a man who understands the management of a Greenhouse perfectly, and the Flower Garden generally. Good references given. Apply to J. BRECK & CO., 52 North Market St. Feb. 7.

POUDRETTE! POUDRETTE!!

Orders left at the New England Seed Store, and at the factory in Brookline, will meet with prompt attention

For sale by J. BRECK & Co., 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. Oct 26.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

POUDRETTE.

Improvements of such a nature have been made in the manufacture of Poudrette, by the Lodi Manufacturing Co., near the city of New York, as to warrant the opinion, that it is the cheapest and best manure now known and in use. By experiments which have been made it has been proved that its fructifying powers have been greatly increased; its operation upon vegetable matter quickened. It will obviate the effects of severe drought and will retain its fertilizing qualities much longer than any Poudrette heretofore made. It will ripen corn in 66 days, fit for use. *The price will be reduced* the following season, as follows. At the factory it will be sold in bulk, at the rate of 25 cents per bushel It will be delivered at any wharf or place in the city of New York, free of cartage and other expense, at the rate of $2 for 1 bbl. which contains 4 bushels; $3 50 for 2 barrels; $5 for 3 barrels, and $10,50 for 7 barrels, and at the rate of $1,50 per barrel for any larger quantity. Persons wishing the article, will please give notice in due season, as the orders will be fulfilled in the order of time received. The Co. was incorporated in February, 1840, for 30 years, by the Legislature of New Jersey. No liability to stockholders beyond their subscription of $100 per share. A few shares of what is called the "Reserved Stock," remain to be subscribed for, which the company guarantee shall pay a dividend of 50 bushels of Poudrette a year on each share, as authorized by the charter. A pamphlet containing instructions for its use and all other necessary information, is in preparation and will be sent gratis soon after the first of January next, to any person applying for it, post paid. Agents have been, or will be appointed in most of the important places in the Eastern and Northern States, to whom persons may give orders. Where there is no agent, please direct "to the President of the Lodi Manufacturing Co., No. 43 Liberty street, New York," and it shall receive immediate attention. The reader will please refer to the letter of Mr. Kentish, published in this paper to day, December 20, 1843.

PUMPKIN SEED WANTED.

The subscribers will pay a fair price for a few bushels of the "old fashioned yellow Pumpkin Seed," suitable for planting. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Nov. 23.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

The subscribers are now receiving large supplies of Garden seeds from Europe, from their own Garden, and other sources. The following are included in the great number of varieties in their establishment, and which they offer at low prices, wholesale and retail.

PEAS.

Cedo Nulli,	Improved Blue Imperial,
Hills' Early,	Woodford Dwarf Marrow,
Early Dwarf,	Bishop's Dwarf, for borders,
" Charlton,	Knights' Dwarf,
" Frame,	Dwarf Marrowfats.
" Warwick,	Tall do.

BEANS.

Lima,	Dwarf China,
Saba,	" Mohawk,
Horticultural Pole,	" Marrow,
Red Cranberry do.	" Kidney,
White do.	" Case knife,
Kidney Pole,	" Six Weeks, &c.

CABBAGE.

Long Late Drumhead,	Early York,
Late Sugar-loaf,	" Battersea,
Green Globe Savoy,	" Vanack,
Red Dutch,	" Hope
Low Dutch Cabbage,	Early Sugar-loaf,

With a great variety of other sorts.

Early and Late Cauliflowers, Broccolis in varieties, Cucumbers, Melons, Squash, sweet Maorjrum, Sage, Summer-Savory, Thyme, Ruta Baga, Turnips, more than twenty fine sorts. Three hundred varieties of Flower Seeds, and every variety of Garden and Field seed, too numerous to mention.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Dec. 12, 1843.

FRUIT TREES.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish every description of Fruit Trees, and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants. The autumn is a suitable time to transplant many Trees and Plants, and often times more convenient than in spring. We have as great a variety of Apples, Pears, Cherries, Plums, Peaches, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, &c. as can be found in the country, and offer them at the lowest prices. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Oct. 11, 1843.

GARDEN SEEDS! GARDEN SEEDS!!

The subscribers are now receiving their fall supply of Garden, Grass and Field Seeds of every description, and would respectfully recommend to their customers and the public to send in their orders as early as possible, to secure a supply from their choicest lots.

Their stock of Seeds for this season will be very full and complete, and most of the varieties being raised under their own inspection, they can confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities. Among them are

Long Blood Beet,	Ruta Baga,
Early Turnip do.	Long Orange Carrot,
French Sugar do.	Early Horn do.
Mangel Wurtzel do.	White Field do.

Also, Cucumber and Cabbage Seeds of every variety; Peas and Beans, of every kind; which, together with a large supply of every kind of seed desirable for the field or garden, comprise the most complete and extensive assortment of Seeds to be found in any similar establishment in the country. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

Oct. 15, 1843.

GARDEN & FLOWER SEEDS FROM LONDON.

We have received, by the Barque Huntress, from London, a choice assortment of GARDEN AND FLOWER SEEDS. We have also received the invoices of three other shipments of Seeds and Trees, which are expected to arrive in the course of 30 days, which will give us the largest and most choice collection of SEEDS AND TREES ever offered by us. Our customers and friends are requested to send in their orders. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Dec. 27th, 1843.

SUPERIOR SALT FOR THE DAIRY.

For sale at the Grist Mill in Beach St., *superior fine Salt*, ground from the very best of Bonaire and St Martin's Salt, and is decidedly the best and cheapest article for the Dairy and family use, being of nearly double strength and much purer than the Liverpool salt. For sale by

A. SHIVERICK and
HOWES & CROWELL,

Boston, Dec. 27. 3mo 36 Commercial wharf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Attachment of a Dog to a Child.—A near neighbor of mine had a little boy about four years old, who had a spaniel of which he was very fond. One day, during the absence of the father, the child was taken ill with the croup; the mother was alarmed, and it so happened that her servants were away, and she had no one to send for a physician. The poor woman was in great tribulation, for in spite of all her efforts the child grew worse. In about an hour after the child was taken ill, her father's carriage stopped at the door, and her mother made her appearance. Her father's house was about two miles distant. The grandmother said that Carlo, the sick child's dog, "came running into the house, all bespattered with mud, and flew about and acted so strangely that she knew something must be the matter with little Billy, her grandson, and she came to see what it was." Until then, the mother of the child had not noticed the absence of the dog from the room, for the boy was playing with him when he was taken sick. The child remained ill three or four days, and then died; and during the whole time the dog never left his bed-side: he watched by the corpse until it was buried, and then took possession of the little boy's chair, which he would allow no one to touch, not even the child's mother. Every day he absented himself for three or four hours; and the father one day going to look at his child's grave, found that the dog had almost scratched his way down to the coffin. He was, after this, kept within doors; but he refused to eat, and in a short time died in the chair of his little master.—*Knickerbocker.*

Misery in the midst of Wealth.—Thurlow Weed, in one of his letters from London, portrays the following scene of wretchedness, poverty, and death, in Regent street, London. He says:

"In walking up Regent street yesterday, I witnessed a scene of anguish new to me, but not so to those better acquainted with the abodes of destitution. Observing a crowd gathering upon the opposite side of the street, I crossed over and saw an infant that had just breathed its last in the arms of its mother, who had been sitting or standing all day in that street, endeavoring to sell matches. The child died for the want of food and nourishment, and the mother, who was still pressing her dead infant to her, was a picture of destitution and despair. There was scarcely strength enough in her trembling limbs to bear her into an apothecary's shop, where the restoratives tried in vain upon the child were needed by the fainting mother. The poor woman by her language and deportment, excited much sympathy. She was evidently in a greatly debilitated state from the want of food. She had only received two and a half pence for matches in two days, and had no other means of support.

Regent street, where this mother and child sat starving, dazzles the eye and bewilders the imagination with its wealth and magnificence. The mines of Potosi and the treasures of Golconda seem to have been poured into the luxurious lap of Regent street. But amid all its wealth and luxury, a mother toiled in vain for the coarse food that would enable her to give nourishment to a dying infant! And thus is human life in this city painfully diversified."

A Dutch preacher, who was warmly in favor of the tory party during the revolutionary war, happened once to get into an American camp on a Sunday, and was consequently called upon for a sermon and a prayer. He, from force of habit, commenced the latter with "Got pless te king"—whereupon there was considerable excitement among the soldiers, which being perceived by him, with admirable presence of mind, he continued thus:

"Yees, mine hearers, I zay, Got pless te king: pless him mit plenty of hard times and a whig parliament—pless him mit defeats on te land't and on te zea—pless him mit all kinds of pad luck—pless him mit sickness—pless him mit shord't life—unt, Lord't, may we have no more of 'em."

Scene in a School.—"Master, this ere gal keeps saying I 'm a thief."

"What does she say you have stolen?"

"She says I stole her character."

At this juncture a little girl jumped up and said, "I geth he did—I geth he did—for I theed him behind the thool houth a eatin' thumthing."

Novel Introduction.—A wag says that in journeying lately, he was put into a stage sleigh with a dozen persons, of whom he did not know a single one. Turning a corner shortly after, however, the sleigh was upset, "and then," said he, "*I found them all out.*"

A gentleman meeting a friend who had recently failed, expressed great concern for his embarrassment. "You are mistaken, my dear sir," said he, "it is not *I*, 't is my *creditors* who are *embarrassed.*"

Why is a hot cake like a caterpillar? Because it makes the *butter fly.*

PATENT COIN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order; one man can work it to good advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

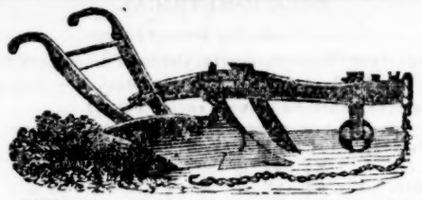
Nov. 1.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

HARRIS' TREATISE ON INSECTS.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Harris' Treatise on Insects. Price $2. Also, the second edition of Dana's Muck Manual, price 62½ cts. Feb. 15.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

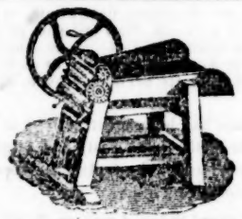
At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

LACTOMETERS—a simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale by J. BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 School Street.